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**Human Rights Council**  
**Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review**  
**Thirty-third session**  
Geneva, 6-17 May 2019

### **Draft report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review\***

### **Nicaragua**

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\* The annex is being circulated without formal editing, in Spanish.

## **Introduction**

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its thirty-third session from 6 to 17 May 2019. The review of Nicaragua was held at the 16th meeting, on 15 May 2019. The delegation of Nicaragua was headed by H.E Mr. Valdrack Ludwing Jaentschke Whitaker, Minister Advisor to the President of Nicaragua for International Relations and the Wider Caribbean. At its 18th meeting, held on 17 May 2019, the Working Group adopted the report on Nicaragua.

2. On 15 January 2019, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Nicaragua: Mexico, Pakistan and Rwanda.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Nicaragua:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/NIC/1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/NIC/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/33/NIC/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Germany, Portugal, on behalf of the Group of Friends on national implementation, reporting and follow-up, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America was transmitted to Nicaragua through the troika. These questions are available on the website of the universal periodic review.

## **I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process**

[To be completed by 24 May 2019]

### **A. Presentation by the State under review**

### **B. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review**

5. During the interactive dialogue, 90 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

## **II. Conclusions and/or recommendations**

6. **The following recommendations will be examined by Nicaragua, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the forty-second session of the Human Rights Council:**

6.1 **Accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Iraq); Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Montenegro); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All**

Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Senegal); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Slovakia); Consider to adhere and ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, and recognize the competence of its Committee (Uruguay); Ratify the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (Armenia);

6.2 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure; (Slovakia); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention of the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Montenegro); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (Georgia); Accede to the Optional Protocol of the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure (El Salvador);

6.3 Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Senegal); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Cyprus); Ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Georgia); Ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (Armenia);

6.4 Accede to the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (El Salvador);

6.5 Consider the ratification of human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Plurinational State of Bolivia); Consider the ratification of human rights instruments to which it is not yet a party (Greece);

6.6 Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Sweden); Accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria); Consider to adhere and ratify the Rome Statute to the International Criminal Court (Uruguay); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Cyprus); Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Georgia);

6.7 Ratify the Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Honduras);

6.8 Present reports to human rights treaty bodies of which they are a party (Peru); Fulfill its obligation to submit periodic reports to the treaty bodies (Honduras); Collaborate effectively with relevant human rights bodies (Senegal); Fully comply with state's obligations under international human rights instruments to which Nicaragua is a party, including timely submitting periodic reports to the respective treaty bodies (Ukraine); Take the necessary steps to submit periodic reports, in accordance with international legal instruments already ratified (Angola);

6.9 Cooperate with the High Commissioner for Human Rights to comply with the mandate under Resolution 40/2 of the Human Rights Council, and meet its obligation to submit reports to human rights treaty bodies to which it is a party (Paraguay);

6.10 Allow access to the country by the special procedures of the Human Rights Council, in accordance with the open invitation extended by the State in 2006 (Honduras);

- 6.11 Allow the return of international and regional bodies, including the OHCHR country team, the Special Monitoring Mechanism for Nicaragua, and the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, and grant them full, unhindered access to all parts of the country, including detention centres (Ireland);
- 6.12 Provide access to international bodies investigating human rights violations, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, and provide them with the necessary assistance for the fulfilment of their mandate (Luxembourg);
- 6.13 Accept international scrutiny, facilitating visits by human rights mechanisms and resuming cooperation with the Inter-American system and the United Nations system (Mexico);
- 6.14 Resume its cooperation with the OHCHR, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council, as well as the OAS and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (Norway);
- 6.15 Grant international human rights mechanisms full and unhindered access to all parts of the country, including detention facilities, as well as access to all official documentation (Poland);
- 6.16 Allows access to the country to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that requested to conduct an official visit, in accordance with the standing invitation extended by the State in 2006 (Portugal);
- 6.17 Guarantee access to regional and international human rights mechanisms (France);
- 6.18 Cooperate with international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms and also allow them to access the country and monitor the human rights situation on the ground (Republic of Korea);
- 6.19 Allow the return of the OHCHR country team and grant its full and unhindered access to all parts of the country and the information requested by it (Slovakia);
- 6.20 Accept the return to Nicaragua of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission for Human Rights, taking into account the criticisms reflected on the report of United Nations and complaints about lack of independence of the national human rights mechanisms (Spain);
- 6.21 Allow access for OHCHR and all relevant international and regional human rights monitoring mechanisms (Georgia);
- 6.22 Ensure effective access and without restrictions to the international and regional human rights mechanisms to the whole country, including to the victims and human rights defenders (Switzerland);
- 6.23 Cooperate closely with the OHCHR and with HRC special procedures, allowing them access to the country in accordance with the standing invitation extended by the State in 2006, especially taking into account that the last such visit took place ten years ago (Ukraine);
- 6.24 Resume cooperation with OHCHR and allow access to the special procedures of the Human Rights Council that had requested to conduct official visit (Afghanistan);

- 6.25 **Resume its cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Human Rights Council mechanisms and treaty bodies, as well as with the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, facilitating visits and allowing unrestricted access to the whole country, including in detention centres (Argentina);**
- 6.26 **Resume cooperation with international human rights observers and impartially investigate, without impunity, all alleged human rights abuses and violations, and hold those responsible to account (Australia);**
- 6.27 **Fully cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms with a view to ensure the full compliance with human rights obligations (Austria);**
- 6.28 **Give consideration to allow independent human rights bodies' access to the country as previously extended by the Government of Nicaragua (Bahamas);**
- 6.29 **Re-establish full cooperation with international and regional human rights mechanisms such as the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, including by granting them again unrestricted access to the country and facilitating their work in the discharge of their mandate (Belgium);**
- 6.30 **Resume cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and other human rights bodies, and consider the implementation of their recommendations (Canada);**
- 6.31 **Restore the conditions for the return of the human rights mechanisms of the Inter-American System and of the Human Rights Council to monitor and document the human rights situation in situ (Chile);**
- 6.32 **Restore the presence in situ of the Office of the United Nations of the High Commissioner for Human Rights as well as of the Organization of American States (Colombia);**
- 6.33 **Resume the cooperation of Nicaragua with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Inter American Commission on Human Rights, and their mechanisms, and assure them all the guarantees necessary for the fulfilment of their mandate (Costa Rica);**
- 6.34 **Allow international and regional human rights bodies and mechanisms unrestricted access to the country to monitor and document the human rights situation (Croatia);**
- 6.35 **Continue dialogue and take concrete steps towards an increased collaboration with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures mandate-holders (Greece);**
- 6.36 **Promptly allow the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to return to the country and to resume its cooperation with the OHCHR, the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and the relevant treaty bodies (Denmark);**
- 6.37 **Provide further support to the Office of the National Commissioner for Human Rights to enable it to fulfill its mandate in the best manner and in accordance with the Paris Principles (Qatar);**

- 6.38 Strengthen the work of the Nicaraguan Office of the Human Rights Advocate (Indonesia);
- 6.39 Guarantee the independence and autonomy of legislative, judiciary and electoral bodies of the country in terms of their personnel and management (Republic of Korea);
- 6.40 Strengthen the National Human Rights Institution (Senegal);
- 6.41 Continue to support the work of the Office of the Human Rights Advocate (South Africa);
- 6.42 Establish a national human rights institution in conformity with the Paris Principles (Uruguay);
- 6.43 Increase efforts to strengthen national capacities for the promotion and protection of human rights (Belarus);
- 6.44 Restore the autonomy of the Office of the Human Rights Advocate and allocate sufficient human, technical and financial resources to it (Bulgaria);
- 6.45 Strengthen the mandate of independent human rights institutions, providing them with capacities and resources (Colombia);
- 6.46 Improve the census methodology to have quantitative and qualitative data on the LGBTI population, as an essential basis for inclusive and human rights-based public policies (Malta);
- 6.47 Continue to intensify effort to develop and strengthen the necessary legislative frameworks to address the cross-sectoral environmental challenges including climate change adaptation and mitigation (Fiji);
- 6.48 Ensure that existing legislative frameworks are reinforced by integrating climate change adaptation in planning and budgeting at national and local levels (Fiji);
- 6.49 Continue to build institutional capacity, data and knowledge to integrate environment and climate change considerations more fully into the national regulatory frameworks (Fiji);
- 6.50 Continue to cooperate closely with the UN bodies and other relevant international organizations to remedy all the effects of natural disasters for the benefit of all citizens, especially children and displaced persons (Serbia);
- 6.51 Continue to strengthen the humanist vocation of the country, for peace and international solidarity towards the sustainable development of our peoples (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.52 Maintain active participation and commitment in the climate change negotiations (Bangladesh);
- 6.53 Continue its efforts in addressing the impacts of climate change and promote international cooperation in this regard, particularly in technology development and transfer, financial support and capacity building (Viet Nam);
- 6.54 Implement effective policies to better promote and protect access to information, including through collaboration with other states (Indonesia);
- 6.55 Ensure that all security forces act in accordance with the principles of legitimate, proportionate and necessary use of force in the context of protests (New Zealand);

- 6.56 Ensure that the National Police refrain from carrying out acts that constitute torture or other ill-treatment against detainees and demonstrators (New Zealand);
- 6.57 Redouble its efforts in strengthening measures to protect vulnerable groups including women and children against all forms of violence (Philippines);
- 6.58 Continue the work to ensure the safety of citizens, which is a guarantee for reducing the level of violence on the streets (Russian Federation);
- 6.59 Take effective, primarily legislative, steps to protect the rights of persons deprived of their liberty (Ukraine);
- 6.60 Cease the excessive use of police force against the exercise of peaceful protest, as well as guarantee the immediate disarmament of civilians close to the Government (Argentina);
- 6.61 Give continuity to the State Sovereignty and Public Safety Strategy, in light of the low levels of violence and its articulation with the social fabric in the solution of community security problems (Plurinational State of Bolivia);
- 6.62 Eradicate the practice of sexual violence against women deprived of their liberty (Costa Rica);
- 6.63 Take immediate steps to prevent the excessive use of force against peaceful protestors (Cyprus);
- 6.64 Redouble efforts and increase investments in community-based organizations, innovative community policing and social protection programs that have contributed to making Nicaragua one of the safest countries in the Americas, to further promote a culture of nonviolence (Haiti);
- 6.65 Ensure that the police, the army and the judicial system remains under the rule of law, curbing the activity of para military forces, and ensuring that no acts of ill-treatment are tolerated in detention facilities (Holy See);
- 6.66 Release without delay LGBTI persons in detention after the events of April 2018 and guarantee dignified conditions for LGBTI persons arrested and detained for other reasons (Malta);
- 6.67 Disband paramilitaries, prevent excessive use of force by police and investigate perpetrators to protect the rights to association and peaceful assembly (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.68 Release all arbitrarily detained political opponents and critics, including journalists (Lithuania);
- 6.69 Honour without delay the commitment to free all political prisoners (Luxembourg);
- 6.70 Release all those arbitrarily or illegally detained; guarantee due process; and assure that the conditions of detention are compliant with international human rights obligations (Norway);
- 6.71 Release immediately the political prisoners, and implement a comprehensive reparation policy for victims and families, which includes measures to establish the truth, identification of victims and perpetrators, and allow the entry and stay to the Interdisciplinary Group of Independent Experts for an indefinite period of time, as well as the presence of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission and all its mechanisms (Paraguay);

- 6.72 **Immediately release political prisoners. Guarantee the independent investigation of complaints of rape, torture and other ill-treatment committed in detention centres, as well as provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantee of non-repetition. (Peru);**
- 6.73 **Release prisoners held since the beginning of the crisis without court supervision (France);**
- 6.74 **Release all those that were unlawfully imprisoned and ensure due process and fair treatment at all stages (Slovakia);**
- 6.75 **Release, immediately, and within the established deadlines, all the prisoners appearing on the lists provided by the government and the Civic Alliance (Spain);**
- 6.76 **Honor its commitment related to the release of political prisoners (Georgia);**
- 6.77 **Release all prisoners of conscience immediately and unconditionally, and take immediate steps to end arbitrary arrest and detention (United States of America);**
- 6.78 **Release without delay political prisoners and guarantee the prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation of allegations of rape, torture and other ill-treatments committed in detention centres, and provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Argentina);**
- 6.79 **Release all students, human rights defenders, journalists or other protestors who are arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly without resorting to house arrests, and ensure that their right to due process is fully respected (Belgium);**
- 6.80 **Immediately release political prisoners and guarantee an independent and transparent investigation of allegations of rape, torture and other ill-treatments committed in detention centres (Brazil);**
- 6.81 **Expediently release all prisoners per the announcement made in the context of the National Dialogue, including those arbitrarily sentenced for their participation in social protests (Canada);**
- 6.82 **Immediately release political prisoners based on the commitment taken by the Government of Nicaragua within the negotiation table framework (Chile);**
- 6.83 **Immediately release all political prisoners, guaranteeing the prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation of allegations of rape, torture and other inhuman and degrading treatments committed in detention centres, as well as provide victims with truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition (Colombia);**
- 6.84 **Adopt measures to release -without delay- the political prisoners and guarantee a prompt, exhaustive, independent and transparent investigation into the complaints of rape, torture and other ill-treatments committed in detention centres; and provide truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition to victims (Ecuador);**
- 6.85 **Conduct thorough investigations into all acts of violence against journalists and media outlets, including the assassination on 21 April 2018 of Ángel Eduardo Gahona, and hold the perpetrators accountable (Iceland);**

- 6.86 Conduct prompt and impartial investigations into the widespread human rights and fundamental freedoms violations perpetrated in the country and release all unlawfully detained political opponents (Italy);
- 6.87 Guarantee respect for all internationally recognized human rights standards, starting with those related to habeas corpus, fair trial and freedom of association and expression, including press freedom (Italy);
- 6.88 Guarantee that access to justice, truth and reparation will be at the centre of any resolution to the current crisis (Maldives);
- 6.89 Create a mechanism for investigating acts of violence occurring in the context of demonstrations, with guarantees of autonomy and independence, to ensure the right to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition (Mexico);
- 6.90 Guarantee a thorough and transparent accountability process by ensuring access to justice and reparation for the victims of human rights violations (Norway);
- 6.91 Conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into the widespread human rights violations perpetrated by the police and armed pro-government groups against the participants of protest since April 2018 and to ensure the victims access to effective remedies (Poland);
- 6.92 Immediately investigate all cases of attacks or violations against human rights defenders members of NGOs and journalist and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice (Poland);
- 6.93 Ensure reparation of victims of acts of violence committed since 18 April 2018, as part of an independent judicial process, allowing the holding of free and transparent elections, in line with recommendations of the Organization of American States and the European Union and authorizing the presence of electoral observation missions by these same organizations (France);
- 6.94 Conduct prompt, exhaustive and impartial investigations into the widespread human rights violations perpetrated by various officials, including police and armed pro-government groups (Slovakia);
- 6.95 Adopt further measures to guarantee the independence and impartiality of the Judiciary (State of Palestine);
- 6.96 Undertake independent investigations into all reported incidents of attacks intimidation or harassment of journalists since April 2018 (Sweden);
- 6.97 Take all necessary actions to implement the recommendations of the OHCHR and GIEI reports regarding the independence and impartiality of the Judiciary (Sweden);
- 6.98 Create a mechanism of international investigations into the violence that had occurred (Georgia);
- 6.99 Hold accountable all government officials, agents, or parapolice forces who are responsible for human rights violations or abuses, -including unlawful or arbitrary killings, forced disappearances, torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of punishment, physical abuse, and rape -by initiating investigations immediately (United States of America);
- 6.100 Ensure the judiciary's independence, including by complying with established procedures on appointment of judicial personnel and by cooperating

**with the Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers (Germany);**

**6.101 Address and ensure thorough and impartial investigation of human rights violations, including excessive use of force, torture, arbitrary detention and killings committed by State officials and paramilitary groups, and guarantee the independence and impartiality of the judiciary (Austria);**

**6.102 Launch thorough investigation of the events that began on the 18 of April 2019 and bring to justice those responsible for human rights violations (Bulgaria);**

**6.103 Adopt a thorough and transparent accountability process to ensure access to justice and reparation for the victims of human rights violations and abuses (Canada);**

**6.104 Set up a mechanism for international investigation related to events of violence that took place, with guarantees of autonomy and independence to ensure the right to truth and to duly identify those responsible (Chile);**

**6.105 Ensure the separation of powers and the independency of the judiciary (Cyprus);**

**6.106 Prosecute the perpetrators of violence against demonstrators, especially those who caused deaths, and provide justice, reparation and guarantees of non-repetition to the victims or their surviving family members (Ecuador);**

**6.107 Take concrete steps to end the current socio-political crisis in the country, including by strengthening state institutions and fighting corruption (Haiti);**

**6.108 Immediately halt the persecutions of political opponents and swiftly release all individuals who have been arbitrarily detained (Iceland);**

**6.109 Revoke anti-terrorism laws that allow for persecution of human rights defenders, including women and LGBTI defenders, journalists and peaceful protesters (Iceland);**

**6.110 Promote the freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Iraq);**

**6.111 Ensure that human rights standards for freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly, including press freedom, are upheld (Ireland);**

**6.112 Take effective measures to ensure that the next electoral process is inclusive of all political parties and movements and entirely transparent (Italy);**

**6.113 Enhance the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and of the media and the right to peaceful assembly, and resolve ongoing problems through dialogue between the government and the people (Japan);**

**6.114 Take further measures, including reform of the electoral system, to organize elections in a fairer manner in cooperation with the international community (Japan);**

**6.115 Comply with international human rights obligations to guarantee that all persons and civil society actors can freely exercise, without fear of persecution or violence, their rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and association, including peaceful protest and dissent; refrain from using arbitrary restrictions**

- and excessive force against protesters; and ensure that those responsible for human rights violations are brought to justice and held to account (Lithuania);
- 6.116 Take all necessary steps to fully protect the freedom of the media and expression, both online and offline, to ensure safety of journalists and accountability for violence and attacks against them (Lithuania);
- 6.117 Restore civil and political rights, including the right to demonstrate and freedom of the press (Luxembourg);
- 6.118 Protect civil society organizations and individuals, including organizations that defend women's rights (Luxembourg);
- 6.119 Guarantee the exercise of freedom of expression and the right of peaceful assembly of persons, avoiding acts of repression against journalists or human rights defenders (Mexico);
- 6.120 Respect and guarantee freedom of expression for all civilians, which includes the unconditional release of all incarcerated journalists and political prisoners and the return of confiscated material of the media and human rights organizations (Netherlands);
- 6.121 Respect and guarantee rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association (Finland);
- 6.122 Ensure the freedom of speech and independence of the press (Finland);
- 6.123 Immediately cease the repression of public protests, particularly the unlawful arrests and arbitrary detentions of those involved in public protests (New Zealand);
- 6.124 Guarantee the human rights and fundamental freedoms of its citizens, especially their rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals, threats, attacks, harassment or unjust prosecution (New Zealand);
- 6.125 Repeal any law, policy or practice that places obstacles to legitimate activities to promote and defend human rights, including the misuse of legislation and administrative measures by the government to close down, raid or silence civil society organizations (New Zealand);
- 6.126 Respect the rights to freedom of expression, association and assembly, by ending the repression of people involved in peaceful protests and allowing human rights defenders, civil society organizations and media to carry out their work (Norway);
- 6.127 Support the national policy to promote a culture of peace and reconciliation (Oman);
- 6.128 Guarantee freedom of expression and demonstration, as a manner to advance towards an effective dialogue with all involved parties (Paraguay);
- 6.129 Respect and guarantee the full enjoyment of the right to protest, freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and political participation of the population and dismantle the pro-government armed groups due to the negative impact of their actions on human rights (Peru);
- 6.130 Ensure that international human rights standards related to freedom of expression, including freedom of media, both online and offline, are upheld, and refrain from using any administrative, judicial, and financial means to unduly restrict the exercise of this right (Poland);

- 6.131 Continue effective dialogue with the opposition and all concerned parts of the conflict (Poland);
- 6.132 Refrains from resorting to violence and give the highest priority to the implementation of a credible and inclusive reconciliation and dialogue process (Portugal);
- 6.133 Restore civil society space and guarantee that local human rights defence organizations can freely operate (France);
- 6.134 Restore and ensure public freedoms, in particular freedom of expression and opinion (France);
- 6.135 Adopt, urgently, all the necessary measures to guarantee full exercise and enjoyment of the freedoms of association, assembly, demonstration and expression, as recognized in the Constitution, among them, the cessation of arbitrary detentions and exercise use of force by the police (Spain);
- 6.136 Restore legal personality and seized goods to non-governmental organisations that defend human rights and to the media (Spain);
- 6.137 Reform legislation which is used to detain and prosecute demonstrators and human rights defenders, especially to reconsider charges of terrorism under Act 977 and assure that the offence cannot be extrapolated to situations unrelated to the aim of the Act (Sweden);
- 6.138 Guarantee freedom of expression and non-resumption of violence (Georgia);
- 6.139 Restore, immediately, the rights to freedoms of expression and of the Media, and carry out investigation on all cases of violence committed against journalists and the Media (Switzerland);
- 6.140 Respect the rights to freedoms of peaceful assembly and association, and release persons arbitrarily detained for having participated into demonstrations, in conformity with the agreements signed on 29 March 2019 by the Government and the Civic Alliance (Switzerland);
- 6.141 Cease harassment of and political pressure on journalists and the press and reduce important restrictions on journalistic supplies and equipment to strengthen protection of freedom of expression (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.142 End immediately all undue interference with rights to freedoms of expression, association and peaceful assembly. Allow all independent media, religious institutions, and civil society organizations to operate without undue coercion, restrictions, legal threat or threat to personal safety (United States of America);
- 6.143 Continue defending peace, stability and constructive dialogue in the country in the face of foreign interference and aggressions (Cuba);
- 6.144 Continue the consultations on building a culture of peace and reconciliation, dialogue and coexistence (Yemen);
- 6.145 Ensure that members of the political opposition and civil society organizations as well as journalists are free to express their opinions and that their right to freedom of assembly is guaranteed (Germany);

- 6.146 Cease violent repression of opposition protests, uphold rights to freedom of association, peaceful assembly and expression, and release those arbitrarily detained for exercising their rights (Australia);
- 6.147 Refrain from creating or misusing legislative or administrative measures with a purpose to silence civil society organizations active in the field of human rights and democracy (Belgium);
- 6.148 Take steps to guarantee full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of expression, of the media, of association and of peaceful assembly, and refrain from further acts of intimidation or reprisal, including by paramilitary groups (Canada);
- 6.149 Resume the national dialogue between the Government and the Civic Alliance for Justice and Democracy that started on the 27 of February, that made it possible to approve a roadmap, ensuring a broad, credible, representative, inclusive and transparent dialogue with support of the international community in order to achieve a peaceful and democratic solution to the crisis (Chile);
- 6.150 Eliminate systematic restrictions imposed on freedom of expression and freedom of the press, by developing policies for the promotion and protection of access to public information (Chile);
- 6.151 Respect the right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association with guarantees and effective protection mechanisms (Colombia);
- 6.152 Guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and cease all act of censorship and harassment against media (Colombia);
- 6.153 Decriminalize the right to hold peaceful protests and release persons arbitrarily detained in the context of civil protests (Costa Rica);
- 6.154 Restore respect for freedom of expression and the press and free journalists who are in detention (Costa Rica);
- 6.155 Repeal or amend legislation that may place obstacles to legitimate activities to promote and defend human rights, thereby respecting the rights to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly (Croatia);
- 6.156 Guarantee the protection and promotion of freedom of expression and the independence and pluralism of the media (Greece);
- 6.157 Fully guarantee freedom of association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals or unjust prosecution (Czechia);
- 6.158 Ensure freedom of expression and refrain from using administrative and judicial means to unduly restrict exercise of this right (Czechia);
- 6.159 Guarantee press freedom, including by refraining from using administrative, judicial, or financial means to unduly restrict its exercise (Denmark);
- 6.160 Immediately cease acts of State repression towards demonstrators, and guarantee the population's right to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and political participation (Ecuador);
- 6.161 Continue efforts to promote political participation for all citizens and to achieve equality of opportunities for everyone to access government jobs and to participate in the decision making process (Egypt);

- 6.162 Safeguard the right to expression and to assembly for all members of society, and freedom of the press (Holy See);
- 6.163 Ensure that all human rights defenders who engage with multilateral institutions and international and regional human rights bodies can do so without fear of persecution or violence and that any allegations or instances of reprisals are promptly investigated (Iceland);
- 6.164 Protect human rights defenders, journalists and media workers and to fully guarantee the right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly by complying with its commitments under the ICCPR (Slovenia);
- 6.165 Respect the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and expression, in particular, by ending reprisals and violence against journalists and human rights defenders (Republic of Korea);
- 6.166 Ensure protection of human rights defenders and journalists, and take adequate measures to guarantee their physical and psychological security, as well as the full exercise of the right to freedom of information, expression and association (Uruguay);
- 6.167 Guarantee freedoms of expression, assembly, association and movement, in particular to human rights defenders and journalists (Argentina);
- 6.168 Institute measures to ensure that human rights defenders, journalists and media workers can exercise their right to freedom of expression, association and peaceful assembly without fear of reprisals, threats, attacks, and unjust prosecutions (Ghana);
- 6.169 Make more efforts to strengthen the fight against trafficking in persons and ensure the rights of victims (Qatar);
- 6.170 Continue its efforts to fight against human trafficking (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.171 Sustain its effort in combatting human trafficking, and protecting the rights of victims of human trafficking, as well as the rights of migrants (Nigeria);
- 6.172 Intensify awareness raising campaigns and training programs to strengthen the implementation of its Anti-Trafficking Act of 2015 (Philippines);
- 6.173 Strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking through implementation of the Anti-trafficking Act and improving measures to prosecute offenders and protect victims (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);
- 6.174 Strengthen further efforts in the area of combating trafficking in persons, including improving law enforcement practices, with a view to bringing justice and punishing the perpetrators, as well as providing victims of trafficking with protection and effective restoration of rights (Belarus);
- 6.175 Protect the family and its development considering it the main unit for the development of society (Egypt);
- 6.176 Continue to promote the employment of people with disabilities (Russian Federation);
- 6.177 Take further necessary steps to provide adequate housing for its citizens (Islamic Republic of Iran);

- 6.178 Intensify its attempts to provide fresh water for all people (Islamic Republic of Iran);
- 6.179 Continue its efforts to combat poverty and equality (Myanmar);
- 6.180 Continue its effort in enhancing the socio-economic well-being of its people (Nigeria);
- 6.181 Continue to proceed to achieve the remaining sustainable development goals, particularly in the area of health and education (Oman);
- 6.182 Take measures to continue progress made in social and economic development, including through implementation of National Human Development Plan and other national policies and international commitments (Pakistan);
- 6.183 Continue to ensure the full range of human rights of both urban and rural residents (Russian Federation);
- 6.184 Sustain national distribution networks for foodstuffs and household items for people on lower incomes (South Africa);
- 6.185 Strengthen support for women seeking to become entrepreneurs (South Africa);
- 6.186 Sustain efforts to expand access to drinking water and sanitation in urban and rural areas (South Africa);
- 6.187 Adopt measures to maintain social programmes and eradicate poverty (State of Palestine);
- 6.188 Continue the efforts that the Government of Nicaragua is making to protect its citizens and support them, including through securing their food needs, and through the various programmes it is implementing for this purpose (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.189 Maintain their efforts in promoting and protecting human rights in accordance with their international obligations (Turkey);
- 6.190 Continue to promote policies in education, health and employment in favour of its people, especially the most vulnerable groups (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.191 Continue consolidating the national distribution of food and household products at lower prices, accessible to lower income families (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);
- 6.192 Effectively implement the National Human Development Plan until 2021 and other government policies and actions for the welfare of its population (Cuba);
- 6.193 Strengthen actions for poverty reduction (Cuba);
- 6.194 Continue its public policies, by including programs that will create conditions to alleviate poverty, such as the Urban Program for the Well-being of Children Living in Extreme Poverty (Angola);
- 6.195 Continue to build on the success of the National Human Development Plan 2012-2016 by ensuring that the core elements of the 2018-2021 National Human Development Programme is fully implemented (Ghana);

- 6.196 Continue its efforts in reducing poverty, particularly in increasing the food security of the most vulnerable in the society (Bhutan);
- 6.197 Adopt and effectively implement a national action plan to combat child and adolescent malnutrition, including measures to raise awareness, improve nutrition surveillance and promote positive behaviour around nutrition (Bulgaria);
- 6.198 Continue to strengthen efforts to maintain financial stability and boost economic growth that would benefit all Nicaraguans (Viet Nam);
- 6.199 Continue increasing the economic and social development with the view to eliminate extreme poverty (Cyprus);
- 6.200 Fully implement programs aimed at supporting the most vulnerable in society such as the Zero Hunger Programme and the distribution of “Production Capacity Recovery” packs (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea);
- 6.201 Continue efforts to eradicate general and extreme poverty in the country (Dominican Republic);
- 6.202 Continue to strive for the reduction of the inequality indices (Dominican Republic);
- 6.203 Continue efforts to provide social services to all segments of society, especially the most vulnerable and most needy groups particularly in the area of universal health care services and education (Egypt);
- 6.204 Ensure the protection and promotion of human rights of the Nicaraguan population in all its spheres (El Salvador);
- 6.205 Adopt targeted policies to promote the effective equality and economic development of Nicaraguans of African descent (Haiti);
- 6.206 Ensure non-discriminatory access to universal health care and free health services (India);
- 6.207 Draft and implement an action plan to reduce child pregnancies consisting of awareness-raising campaigns, active prosecution of rapists, comprehensive sexual education and access to emergency contraception (Netherlands);
- 6.208 Develops strategies to ensure sexual education at schools aiming inter alia at reducing the numbers of teenage pregnancy and at ensuring that girls continue to have access to education without discrimination (Portugal);
- 6.209 Step up efforts to guarantee universal access to health and education for all Nicaraguans (Eritrea);
- 6.210 Guarantee healthcare and education for all citizens of Nicaragua (Russian Federation);
- 6.211 Continue to strengthen the right to health, including through the full health coverage and health services free of charges (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.212 Continue to expand the quality and access to the health system, with emphasis on the reduction of maternal and child mortality (Cuba);
- 6.213 Continue its efforts to further reduce the rate of child mortality (Bangladesh);

- 6.214 **Adopt effective measures to address widespread adolescent pregnancy, including the development, implementation and monitoring, as well as costing and budgeting, of an integrated national prevention strategy (Bulgaria);**
- 6.215 **Further consolidate the family and community health-care model in line with the Primary Health-care Strategy and share good practices in this regard (Democratic People's Republic of Korea);**
- 6.216 **Guarantee health assistance to all, with no discrimination for political reasons, and with respect to the freedom and the professionalism of medical personnel (Holy See);**
- 6.217 **Decriminalize abortion in all circumstances and to ensure that safe and legal abortion services are available for those women and girls whose pregnancy is a result of rape or whose lives or health are put at risk, as previously recommended (Slovenia);**
- 6.218 **Survey the extent of unsafe illegal abortions and introduce measures to safeguard women's universal right to life and health (Norway);**
- 6.219 **Decriminalize abortion at least in cases of pregnancies resulting from rape or incest and also where the life or health of the mother is at risk (Germany);**
- 6.220 **Ensure the realisation of sexual and reproductive health and rights, including access to the full range of quality reproductive and sexual health care, services and information (Australia);**
- 6.221 **Enhance the quality of teaching and ensure non-discriminatory access to education in rural areas (India);**
- 6.222 **Continue to provide better access to education, by prioritizing budget allocation for preschool and secondary education in rural areas (Indonesia);**
- 6.223 **Continue its efforts to eradicate illiteracy particularly for women and young girls (Islamic Republic of Iran);**
- 6.224 **Continue its guaranteed education programmes that aim to improve quality education and equitable access, and increase institutional efficiency and effectiveness (Lao People's Democratic Republic);**
- 6.225 **Ensure that access to education for vulnerable groups such as indigenous peoples, persons of African descent and migrants is guaranteed and respected (Madagascar);**
- 6.226 **Introduce legislative measures prohibiting all forms of discrimination with regard to access to education (Madagascar);**
- 6.227 **Continue its efforts to ensure free, fair, high quality and appropriate education (Oman);**
- 6.228 **Continue its efforts to implement Education Plan for 2017-2021 in order to ensure provision of a free, fair, high-quality, child-friendly education (Pakistan);**
- 6.229 **Continue the campaign on school dropouts and maternal mortality (Eritrea);**
- 6.230 **Continue to improve the infrastructure of the study centres at national level, especially in the rural areas (Eritrea);**

- 6.231 Continue ensuring the right to free, equitable, of high quality and appropriate education, expand its scope and promote equal opportunities to benefit from it (Syrian Arab Republic);
- 6.232 Continue its focus on the implementation of the Education Plan for 2017-2021 and establish the appropriate curriculum and initiatives for the promotion of equal access to education for all (Bahamas);
- 6.233 Continue to improve the infrastructure of public schools to guarantee a better education in the country (Dominican Republic);
- 6.234 Continue implementing remote secondary education services in the most vulnerable rural areas (El Salvador);
- 6.235 Keep improving access to, and the quality of, education for children, especially for those living in rural areas (Holy See);
- 6.236 Fully implement its national legislation to prevent violence against women and to eradicate gender discrimination (India);
- 6.237 Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all harmful practices against woman and girls, including child early and forced marriage (Italy);
- 6.238 Continue its priority to support gender equality and the participation of women in decision-making levels (Lao People's Democratic Republic);
- 6.239 Develops strategies to address ongoing violence against women and girls, including femicides and sexual abuse (Portugal);
- 6.240 Take immediate measures to address the high rates of femicide and sexual and domestic violence against women and children by promptly investigating and prosecuting such crimes, by repealing legislative amendments that have weakened the implementation of Act No. 779 and providing specialized support for victims (Germany);
- 6.241 Ensure better protection of women and children, by putting in place mechanisms to warn about signs of violence, at an early stage (Algeria);
- 6.242 Eliminate gender-based violence, and discrimination and violence directed at indigenous and LGBTI minorities (Australia);
- 6.243 Take urgent measures to combat all forms of violence against women and children, particularly sexual violence against girls, through strengthening of the legal framework, development of competent authorities and adequate support to victims (Austria);
- 6.244 Continue its efforts to strengthen the rights of women, particularly in enhancing their access to justice (Bhutan);
- 6.245 Increase efforts to reduce the levels of impunity of violence against women and girls (Brazil);
- 6.246 Establish comprehensive and transparent records of incidence of domestic violence, sexual violence, maternal mortality, as well as femicides and discrimination against LGBTIQI (Cyprus);
- 6.247 Make further efforts to ensure full enjoyment of the rights of children (Italy);
- 6.248 Take all necessary measures to prevent violations of the human rights of children and adolescents, particularly the right to life and health (Maldives);

6.249 Increase its efforts to reduce child labour by providing necessary incentives and allocating more funding to the education sector (Myanmar);

6.250 Further invests and develops policies to eliminate child labour, to reduce school drop-out rates and to improve access to education in rural areas (Portugal);

6.251 Take measures to prevent violence against children or their labour exploitation in order to protect the rights of the Child (Yemen);

6.252 Allocate sufficient financial resources to support the effective implementation of legislation aimed at reducing the rate of child labour (Algeria);

6.253 Take measure to prevent violations of the human rights of children and adolescents, particularly the right to life, health, participation and freedom of association (Malta);

6.254 Take bold measures to improve the process of awarding land titles to indigenous peoples (Mozambique);

6.255 Guarantee the traditional property regime of indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples and protect their ancestral cultural identity (Peru);

6.256 Ensure effective access to the right to seek and enjoy asylum by resuming the processing of asylum claims (Afghanistan);

6.257 Ensure effective access to the right to education for refugees and asylum seekers (Afghanistan);

6.258 Allow the voluntary and safe return of citizens who have fled the country from fear of reprisal (Australia);

6.259 Guarantee the safe return and stay without reprisals to all those who were forced to leave Nicaragua since the beginning of the crisis (Costa Rica).

7. All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.

## Annex

### Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Nicaragua was headed by H.E Mr. Valdrack Ludwing Jaentschke Whitaker, Minister Advisor to the President of Nicaragua for International Relations and the Wider Caribbean and composed of the following members:

- Su Excelencia Sr. Carlos Ernesto Morales Dávila, Representante Permanente de la República de Nicaragua ante la organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y otros Organismos Internacionales acreditados en Ginebra, Suiza;
  - Sr. Javier Antonio Morazán Chavarría, Asesor de la Delegación del Gobierno de la República de Nicaragua para el tercer Examen Periódico Universal;
  - Sr. Maynor Josué Aragón Bravo, Secretario de las Relaciones Internacionales de la Procuraduría de Derechos Humanos;
  - Sra. Nohelia Carolina Vargas Idiáquez, Primer Secretaria de la Misión Permanente de la República de Nicaragua ante la organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y otros Organismos Internacionales acreditados en Ginebra, Suiza;
  - Sra. Elvielena Díaz Obando, Primer Secretaria de la Misión Permanente de la República de Nicaragua ante la organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU) y otros Organismos Internacionales acreditados en Ginebra, Suiza.
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